GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2659
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2017
Early detection and prevention of Cancer
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of precipitous rise in various types of cancer among men, women and children, the Government proposes to launch any nation-wide programme for the early detection and prevention of such diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there are certain regions in the country which are prone to cancer;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(e) the other corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the spread of the dreadful disease especially for the poor?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government for improving healthcare including prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Cancer. The objectives of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) for interventions upto district level include awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. The focus is on three types of cancer namely breast, cervical and oral cancer. A population level prevention, screening and control programme for common NCDs such as Hypertension, Diabetes and Common Cancer viz. Breast, Oral and Cervical is being implemented under NHM.

(c) & (d): The estimates from National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research indicate some variance in the occurrence of cancer across different parts of the country. However, there appears no cancer prone zone in the country.

(e): The treatment of Cancer in many of State and Central Government institutions is free for BPL patients and subsidized for others. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments to prevent and control cancer. Some of the steps taken by Central Government are as follows:

I. To enhance the facilities for tertiary care of cancer, the Central Government is implementing a Tertiary Care Cancer Centre Scheme to support the setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country.

II. Supporting Cancer care under new AIIMS and State Government Medical Colleges being upgraded under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY).

III. Setting up of 2nd campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and National Cancer Institute (NCI), Jhajjar as part of second campus of AIIMS, New Delhi has been approved.

IV. The Government is providing financial assistance to patients living below poverty line for life threatening diseases under the schemes such as Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (HMCPF), State Illness Assistance Fund (SIAF) and Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG).

V. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) outlets have been opened at 41 Institutions/Hospitals with an objective to make available Cancer and Cardiovascular Diseases drugs and implants at discounted prices to the patients. Jan Aushadhi stores are set up by Department of Pharmaceuticals to provide generic drugs at affordable prices.

VI. The list of medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) which are included in the First Schedule of Drug Pricing Control Order (DPCO), 2013 also contain drugs used for the treatment of Cancer for which ceiling prices have been fixed.